



# NEWS RELEASE

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**District:** 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PROJECT TO WIDEN HWY. 101 THROUGH SANTA MARIA APPROVED

**SANTA MARIA** – Caltrans has announced that Diablo Contractors of San Ramon has been awarded a contract to construct the widening of Hwy. 101 in Santa Maria. Their \$30 million dollar bid was the lowest of three submitted for the project.

A 7-mile section of Hwy. 101 will be expanded from two to three lanes in both directions from the Santa Maria Way undercrossing to the Hwy. 101/135 (Broadway) interchange. The shoulders for the fast lane will be removed and the entire median area will be paved to create two new lanes.

A new concrete barrier will be built to separate the north and southbound lanes. Five soundwalls will also be included as part of the project. Most of the work will be done during overnight hours to minimize traffic delays. Construction is scheduled to begin in August and is expected to be completed by summer of 2009.

For traffic updates on other state highway projects in Santa Barbara County, motorists can call Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at 805-568-0858 or visit the District 5 website at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/maint/road/upsb.htm>





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